

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

IN REPLY TO

Senate resolution of December 19, 1894, transmitting information relative to public lands in the State of Nebraska.

JANUARY 7, 1895.—Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 5, 1895.

SIR: In reply to Senate resolution 19th ultimo, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be instructed to report to the Senate the number of acres of public lands in the State of Nebraska, exhibiting in said report the number of acres in each county in said State and in each land district thereof, and showing the number of acres in said State that, having been taken under the land laws of the United States, have been abandoned or relinquished by the settlers thereon.

I have the honor to hand you a copy of a report by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Respectfully,

HOKE SMITH, *Secretary.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DECEMBER 28, 1894.

SIR: I am in receipt, by departmental reference of December 20, 1894, for report in duplicate and return of paper, the following Senate resolution, dated December 19, 1894, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be instructed to report to the Senate the number of acres of public lands in the State of Nebraska, exhibiting in said report the number of acres in each county in said State and in each land district thereof, and showing the number of acres in said State that, having been taken under the land laws of the United States, have been abandoned or relinquished by the settlers thereon.

In reply I have the honor to report that it is deemed to be impracticable at this time, and for the purposes of this report to ascertain accurately, from an examination of the official records, the amount of land now vacant in the State of Nebraska. I submit, however, the following

list, which is taken from reports made to this office by the local officers, showing their approximate estimate of the lands remaining vacant in their respective districts on June 30, 1894, and in the several counties embraced therein:

Land district.	County.	Area vacant land.
Alliance.....	Boxbutte.....	69,800
	Cheyenne.....	305,734
	Dawes.....	105,490
	Deuel.....	496,737
	Grant.....	25,000
	McPherson.....	29,000
	Scotts Bluff.....	110,915
	Sheridan.....	533,026
	Sioux.....	945,883
	Total.....	2,621,585
Broken Bow.....	Blaine.....	269,300
	Brown.....	154,560
	Cherry.....	590,120
	Custer.....	94,960
	Grant.....	334,760
	Hooker.....	365,080
	Logan.....	156,720
	McPherson.....	415,920
	Thomas.....	367,320
	Total.....	2,748,740
Lincoln.....	Adams.....	None.
	Boone.....	None.
	Butler.....	None.
	Buffalo.....	None.
	Cass.....	None.
	Clay.....	None.
	Colfax.....	None.
	Custer.....	640
	Dawson.....	None.
	Fillmore.....	None.
	Gage.....	None.
	Greeley.....	15,896
	Hall.....	None.
	Hamilton.....	None.
	Howard.....	None.
	Jefferson.....	None.
	Johnson.....	None.
	Lancaster.....	None.
	Merrick.....	None.
	Nance.....	None.
	Nemaha.....	None.
	Nuckolls.....	None.
	Otoe.....	None.
	Pawnee.....	None.
	Platte.....	None.
	Polk.....	None.
	Richardson.....	None.
	Saline.....	None.
	Saunders.....	None.
	Seward.....	None.
	Sherman.....	None.
	Thayer.....	None.
	Valley.....	3,103
	York.....	None.
	Total.....	19,639
McCook.....	Adams.....	None.
	Chase.....	58,000
	Dundy.....	119,400
	Frontier.....	2,500
	Furnas.....	None.
	Franklin.....	None.
	Gosper.....	None.
	Hall.....	None.
	Harlan.....	None.
	Hayes.....	26,300
	Hitchcock.....	4,300
	Kearney.....	None.
	Phelps.....	None.
	Red Willow.....	300
	Webster.....	None.
	Total.....	210,800

Land district.	County.	Area vacant land.
North Platte.....	Custer.....	33,858
	Dawson.....	4,619
	Frontier.....	None.
	Gosper.....	69
	Keith.....	125,835
	Lincoln.....	273,231
	Logan.....	31,036
	McPherson.....	400,495
	Perkins.....	10,546
	Total.....	879,689
O'Neill.....	Antelope.....	2,000
	Boyd.....	136,600
	Brown.....	5,900
	Boone.....	14,000
	Burt.....	None.
	Cedar.....	None.
	Cuming.....	None.
	Dakota.....	None.
	Dixon.....	None.
	Dodge.....	None.
	Douglas.....	None.
	Garfield.....	196,160
	Holt.....	146,880
	Keyapaha.....	7,000
	Knox.....	4,000
	Loup.....	220,320
	Madison.....	None.
	Pierce.....	None.
	Rock.....	53,600
	Sarpy.....	None.
	Stanton.....	None.
	Thurston.....	None.
	Wayne.....	None.
	Wheeler.....	115,000
	Washington.....	None.
	Total.....	901,460
Sidney.....	Banner.....	69,280
	Cheyenne.....	294,080
	Deuel.....	190,560
	Keith.....	13,760
	Kimball.....	132,880
	McPherson.....	28,000
	Perkins.....	None.
	Scotts Bluff.....	25,600
	Total.....	754,160
Valentine.....	Brown.....	313,720
	Cherry.....	2,301,630
	Keyapaha.....	62,793
	Rock.....	206,420
	Total.....	2,884,563
	Total vacant land in Nebraska.	11,020,636

Total in—	Acres.
Adams County (Lincoln and McCook districts)	None.
Boone County (Lincoln and O'Neill districts)	14,000
Brown County (Broken Bow, O'Neill, and Valentine districts)	474,180
Cheyenne County (Alliance and Sidney districts)	579,814
Cherry County (Broken Bow and Valentine districts)	2,891,750
Custer County (Broken Bow, Lincoln, and North Platte districts)	129,458
Dawson County (Lincoln and North Platte districts)	4,619
Deuel County (Alliance and Sidney districts)	687,297
Frontier County (McCook and North Platte districts)	2,500
Grant County (Alliance and Broken Bow districts)	359,760
Gosper County (McCook and North Platte districts)	69
Hall County (Lincoln and McCook districts)	None.
Keith County (North Platte and Sidney districts)	139,595
Keyapaha County (O'Neill and Valentine districts)	69,793
Logan County (Broken Bow and North Platte districts)	187,756
McPherson County (Alliance, Broken Bow, North Platte, and Sidney districts)	873,415
Perkins County (North Platte and Sidney districts)	10,546
Rock County (O'Neill and Valentine districts)	260,020
Scotts Bluff (Alliance and Sidney districts)	136,515

In addition to the above there are about 37,759.26 acres contained in abandoned military reservations subject to disposal as hereinafter stated, and divided among the counties and districts as follows:

Fort Hartsuff, situated in Valley County, Lincoln district, containing 3,251.41 acres, subject to disposal under the act of July 5, 1884 (23 Stat., 103); Fort McPherson, situated in Lincoln County, North Platte district, containing 19,500 acres, subject to disposal under the act of August 23, 1894 (Pamphlet Stat., Fifty-third Congress, second session, p. 491); Camp Sheridan, situated in Sheridan County, Alliance district, containing 11,172.50 acres, subject to disposal under said act of August 23, 1894; Fort Sidney post reserve, situated in Cheyenne County; wood and timber reserve, situated in Cheyenne and Banner counties, subject to disposal under the said act of July 5, 1884.

As to that part of the resolution which calls for a statement "showing the number of acres in said State that, having been taken under the land laws of the United States, have been abandoned or relinquished by the settlers thereon," I have the honor to report that to furnish this information would necessitate the search of all the entries and filings recorded in 126 tract books, and this would require the labor of many clerks for a long period of time. Owing to the condition of the work of this office, and the limited clerical force at its command, I am unable to supply the information desired.

The resolution is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

S. W. LAMOREUX,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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